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USSR Report

AGRICULTURE

No. 1199



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DEPUTY PREMIER NURIYEV VISITS MOLDAVIA

30 July Visit

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 31 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[ATEM report: "Z. N. Nuriyev's Stay in Moldavia"]

[Text] Z. N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Moldavia on 30 July.

Comrade Nuriyev familiarized himself with the experience of the activity of agricultural production mechanization and electrification associations in crop growing and in their application of new industrial methods for the production of grain, industrial, vegetable and fodder crops, and also with the work of fodder production associations and their production and economic relations with livestock-raising complexes.

Z. N. Nuriyev had a conversation on these topics with I. I. Bodyul, first secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee. Taking part in the conversation were Central Committee bureau members S. K. Grossu, Ye. P. Kalenik, I. P. Kalin and N. V. Merenishchev.

Z. N. Nuriyev has begun his familiarization with the republic.

31 July Visit

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 1 Aug 79 p 1 LD

[ATEM report: "Z. N. Nuriyev Familiarizes Himself With Moldavia"]

[Text] Following his arrival in Moldavia Z. N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, began to familiarize himself with the republic on 30 July. He visited the experimental fields of the "Gibrid" Scientific Production Association, where more than 7,000 hybrids of corn of local, Soviet and foreign varieties are being tested. Comrade Nuriyev displayed special interest in the organization of seed growing of this

crop in the republic and ways of improving it. The guest was told of the effectiveness of the drip method of irrigation, exemplified by the Gazeta Pravda Interkolkhoz Orchard, Dubossarskiy Rayon. Here trees obtain moisture by means of this highly progressive irrigation method over more than 500 hectares.

In Grigoriopolskiy Rayon Comrade Nuriyev visited the interkolkhoz vegetable rotation, inspected machinery working on a 760-hectare tomato field and familiarized himself with the technology of combine harvesting of fruit. He visited the Grigoriopol Canning Industry Association grading-center, where photoelectric cells are used for grading tomatoes by color, and inspected the tomato paste production line and the production line for whole tomatoes in their own juice. In the same rayon the guest was shown the Interkolkhoz Spur [Spurovyy] Orchard on dwarf stock, which began to fruit in the second year after planting. In Kriulyanskiy Rayon the pig complex with a complete production cycle, whose creation made it possible to double meat production in the rayon, and the fodder concentrates plant, which supplies it with fodder, were visited.

The same day Comrade Nuriyev visited Chadyr-Lungskiy Rayon. Here his attention was focused on the industrial technology of cultivating corn and sunflowers using herbicides, which excludes the need for manual labor and reduces the volume of mechanized work. In detailed talks with Hero of Socialist Labor S. M. Parmakli, S. G. Khasta and other leaders of comprehensive mechanized detachments he familiarized himself with how the components of the new technology are used by the pioneers who introduced it in the country.

On 31 July Z. N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, traveled to the north of the republic. On the experimental fields of the "Selektsiya" Scientific Production Association he was shown sowings of promising new high yield varieties and hybrids of sunflowers. The association scientists spoke of the methods and basic results of work in the selection of this valuable crop and the elaboration of industrial methods for cultivating it. Z. N. Nuriyev inspected and assessed highly the Ryshkany Base Enterprise for servicing the machine pool of the association for the mechanization and electrification of agriculture and had a talk with workers and leaders. In Yedintsy he familiarized himself with the organization of work in interfarm enterprises for beef production and veal farming.

Z. N. Nuriyev was greeted warmly by teachers, students and working people in the V. I. Lenin Labor Red Banner Agronomic Sovkhoz and Technical School, Dondyushanskiy Rayon. He inspected the educational and production base of that educational institution, which prepares middle-level cadres for kolkhozes and sovkhozes and is at the same time a major multisector farm.

Z. N. Nuriyev visited the Drokiya beef production unit and fodder concentrates plant, which operate together as a single agroindustrial enterprise. In the same rayon the deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers familiarized himself with the activity of the Fodder Production Association and its economic mutual relations with the stockraising complex it serves.

On returning to Kishinev, Z. N. Nuriyev visited the fruit and vegetable trading center, which satisfies fresh vegetable and fruit requirements among residents in one of the republican capital's biggest residential areas--Ryshkanovka.

Z. N. Nuriyev was accompanied on his tour by S. K. Grossu, chairman of the Moldavian Council of Ministers.

Z. N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, left for Moscow the same day.

CSO: 1824

BELORUSSIAN EFFORTS TO PROTECT SEED CROPS

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Jul 79 p 2

[Article by V. Kulakov, "BSSR Sortsemprom" chief, and Candidate of Agricultural Sciences N. Moroz, head of the department of seed growing and seed science at the Belorussian Scientific Research Institute of Grain and Grain Products: "Priority Attention to Seed"]

[Text] The circumstances which have developed require that every step necessary be taken to provide each republic farm with acclimatized, high-reproduction seed. The bulk of that seed must unquestionably be provided by the specialized seed-growing farms on which more than 600,000 ha of primary through tertiary seed of graded, acclimatized and promising varieties has been preserved for harvesting. According to the specialists, they will produce at least 500,000 to 550,000 tons of grain seed, about 300,000 tons of which will be supplied to other farms.

However, due to partial loss of some sown area and to low yields, the seed-growing farms will not be able to provide republic kolkhozes and sovkhoses with all the seed they need. Considerably more seed must be procured than last year to state resources for distribution to rayons and farms suffering most from the drought. It will be possible to cope with the task of providing all farms with all the high-quality seed they need only if all grain areas suitable for seed growing on every farm are set aside for this purpose. This is why it is urgently necessary to do field studies everywhere on graded plantings and to test them. Seed stocks should be laid in to meet farms' own needs only as acclimatized, promising high-reproduction seed varieties.

Particular attention should be paid to protecting leguminous plantings sown to grain on all farms. We are faced with the task of protecting all sowings of lupine, fall and winter vetch, peas, maple peas and feed beans sown to grain, with setting them aside for seed purposes, regardless of yield. Under present conditions, obtaining even 3-4 quintals of seed per hectare would be justified.

In order that the selected set-aside grain will be of seed quality after preparation, it must not be injured during harvesting. Otherwise the seed

laboratory and field germination capacity will be reduced, especially this year, when less bulk grain reaches the combine threshing mechanism due to low plant growth. The least grain crop seed injury is observed at grinding time when grain moisture content is 16-20 percent. Combines must be adjusted so as to avoid crushing the grain and to ensure that it is completely thrashed out. New combine units should not be used to harvest seed sectors, as they frequently injure the grain. Because the grain is low, harvesting should be done at the lowest cut to avoid losses. On sowings with uneven grain ripening, selective harvesting must be used: the ripest part of the crop must go through the threshers using the usual drying procedure, but grain with unripe sections must be used for other purposes. If a pile has some grain with a higher moisture content (at least 22-23 percent), those lots need to be dried gently, heating the grain to not more than 30 degrees and subsequent processing in storage facilities equipped with active ventilation. Seed must be grouped into lots of 45-50 tons when harvesting and must not be mixed during subsequent harvesting and processing.

All grain reaching the threshing floor must go immediately to the pile cleaner and then on for drying and sorting. In order to correctly determine the drying and processing routine, the grain arriving from each machine must be analyzed in the laboratory, first for moisture content and dockage. The moisture content of grain arriving at the threshing floor from seed sections must as a rule not exceed 19-20 percent. According to the state standard for Belorussian conditions, seed drying must reduce the moisture content to 15 to 15.5 percent, and winter rye and wheat seed to be laid in to the transition fund -- 12-13 percent. Scientific research has established that the indicated moisture contents are optimal.

In order to increase the drying capacity of active-ventilation hoppers, they must be used with a VPT-400 or VPT-600, one VPT for four hoppers, which will permit reducing hopper grain moisture content by six percent per 24-hour period, that is, practically dessicated. In order to dry seed more evenly in active-ventilation facilities, the warm-air feed should be switched off periodically and the seed cooled with cold air. High-quality seed can be obtained using shaft and drum driers by carefully maintaining the drying temperature so that the grain remains below 30 degrees and by not removing more than 4-5 percent of the moisture per pass.

Seed size this year will be smaller for certain crops due to the drought, so undersowing grates in complex grain-cleaning machines should be set at 2 mm oblong openings for wheat and barley and 1.5 mm for rye and oats. This will permit a certified seed yield of 50-60 percent of the incoming grain. We should achieve a situation in which 1,000 grains of tetraploid winter rye varieties ("belta" and "gibrid 67") weigh at least 38-40 grams and diploid varieties ("khar'kovskaya-60," "voskhod-1" and "belorusskaya-23") weigh at least 28-30 grams, "mironovskaya-808" winter wheat, "leningradka" fall wheat and barley weigh 36-38 grams, and oats -- 27-30 grams.

Special attention should be paid to choosing drier and seed-cleaning machine operators, laboratory workers and full-time seed processing workers. Each

farm must create permanent seed preparation brigades, and not just seed-growing farms; they must be set shift and seasonal assignments, schedules for completing seed preparation, wage schedules, and moral and material incentives.

Republic kolkhozes and sovkhoses have a winter grain transition seed reserve and a fall grain insurance seed reserve. Their protection must be supervised and suitable facilities provided; where necessary, seed preparation must be set up at seed-cleaning machines and drying done on threshing floors. According to seed monitoring inspection data, winter crop seed, which requires immediate preparation and drying, is at more than 20,000 tons in the republic, including about 8,000 tons in Brestskaya Oblast.

Carrying out the important task of providing all republic kolkhozes and sovkhoses with high-quality seed places particular responsibility on all specialists of farms, agricultural administrations, and interfarm and oblast seed-growing associations which must head up this work.

1182

CSO: 1824

REPEATED PROBLEMS WITH HANDLING OF LIVESTOCK ON SOUTHEAST RAILROAD

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 Apr 79 p 3

[Article by S. Avramenko, veterinary doctor, Gryazinskiy Veterinary Transport Sector, Southeast Railroad: "The Question of Losses En Route Again"]

[Text] Animal husbandry workers invest a great deal of labor in raising full-sized livestock. This makes it even more regrettable to see the losses that occur while the livestock are being transported to the meat combine.

One day recently the Plavitskiy Feeding Sovkhoz of the Lipetsk Skotoprom Trust shipped 260 male calves weighing 400-500 kilograms apiece at the Plavitsa Station of the Southeast Railroad. The loading went on from 1600 to 1800 but the animals stood waiting for 23 hours 44 minutes and did not arrive at the Gryazi rail center until 0750 of the next day. It took the cars eight hours to travel 40 kilometers. At Gryazi Station employees of the Volgograd Railroad found trouble in the axle box of one of the cars which had not been inspected before loading. They had to repair it, which took 17 hours and 10 minutes. All this time 260 head of livestock were standing in the heat without water.

When this shipment of livestock moved on it was again at a snail's pace. They did not arrive at their destination, Boynya Station near Moscow, until 1215 of the fourth day. Once again, just before reaching the station, the train had to stand in the heat for more than 15 hours. By this time two calves had died from overheating. In all, the herd lost about one ton of weight during the trip.

This is not the only case. I consider it a profound mistake that some railroad workers equate shipping livestock to transporting freight such as gravel, metal, and lumber. Those specifically at fault for losses in shipping livestock are not held accountable. And look at the cars sent to the meat combine for shipping livestock! They do not have water troughs or feeders.

When will the attitude toward livestock shipped by rail change?

[From the editors] "SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' has received numerous warning signals like the one sent by veterinary doctor S. Avramenko. The newspaper has published several items on the need to straighten out livestock shipping by rail. After each one we have received assurances from the heads of subdivisions of the ministries of Railroads and the Meat and Dairy Industry that steps would be taken. As we see, words are just words and nothing has changed.

"It was quite a coincidence that following Comrade Avramenko's letter representatives of the RSFSR Ministry of Procurement and the RSFSR Skotoprom Association inspected the organization of livestock delivery to the Moscow Meat Combine from the same Plavitskiy Sovkhoz and found circumstances similar to those related by Comrade Avramenko in his letter.

"The editors are waiting for the leaders of the ministries mentioned above to report on steps taken to avoid losses of output en route."

11,176
CSO:1824

NONCHERNOZEM ZONE AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT RETURN DETAILED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 79 p 2

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences and Professor I. Sal'nikov: "Investment and Return"]

[Text] There is the concept "on the march." It is especially applicable to farms of the Russian nonchernozem zone, which are now in motion, in change. Renewal of this extensive region has been accelerated by the enormous capital investments allocated to develop agriculture in the zone. This is the most important link in a complex program of large-scale transformations outlined by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree. Where the funds are going and what the return on them is are discussed in the article published below.

Zone agriculture has been allocated more than 18 billion rubles over the past three years. The average annual investment has exceeded the Ninth Five-Year Plan level 1.5-fold. This has permitted a significant strengthening of the material-technical base of the countryside. Since the start of the 10th Five-Year Plan 13.4 billion rubles in fixed production assets has been put into operation. During this period sovkhoses and kolkhoses have been supplied with 235,000 tractors, 141,000 trucks, 55,000 grain-harvesting combines, and significant amounts of other equipment. The power available to agriculture has reached 95 million horsepower, an increase of 26 percent over 1975.

The basis of all production branches has been strengthened. Quite a few poultry farms, stockraising complexes and farms, hothouse combines and mineral fertilizer warehouses have been built in recent years. Extensive land reclamation is being done. The farm land reclaimed by drainage on nonchernozem zone kolkhoses and sovkhoses has reached 2.5 million hectares, an increase of 20 percent since the end of the last five-year plan, and the amount of land being irrigated has increased 1.6-fold during those three years. The value of fixed production assets in agriculture per 100 hectares of farm land has increased from 51,000 to 68,000 rubles, 54 percent higher than the level for the Russian Federation as a whole.

A considerable portion of these resources has been used to actualize the program of social transformations. Over the past three years upwards of 11 million square meters of housing, and many schools, preschool institutions and clubs and houses of culture were built.

The growing flow of investments is testimony to the attention the party, state and entire Soviet people pay to solving problems of the nonchernozem zone. The country does not begrudge the funds needed to transform the region faster, to make the fields and meadows more bountiful. But the more weighty the assistance to the countryside, the greater must be the responsibility of planning and economic organs, rural laborers, reclamation specialists and construction workers for the efficient use of resources.

Practice has shown that problems are solved in an overall manner, gross harvests increase, and labor productivity is higher when capital investments are used skillfully and progressive technology is introduced. One example would be the many sovkhoses and kolkhoses of the zone. In 1976-1978, more than 400 of them harvested upwards of 30 quintals of grain per hectare. Productivity on farms of Moscow and Leningradskaya oblasts exceeded 3,300 kg of milk per cow.

However, as was noted at the July (1978) CPSU Central Committee plenum, work to develop the nonchernozem zone has not yet achieved the scope and business-like nature necessary for successful resolution of the tasks set. The facts bear out that not all farms of the zone have been able to reach the new frontiers. Moreover, many kolkhoses and sovkhoses of certain oblasts have even taken a step backwards. Thus, over the last three years the average annual gross agricultural production volume in Novgorodskaya Oblast was 90 percent of the 1971-1975 level, in Pskovskaya and Kalininskaya oblasts -- 88 percent, and in Kostromskaya Oblast -- 93 percent. And although an increment has been achieved for the zone as a whole, it has been insignificant -- a total of two percent. The substantial reduction in return on capital and production efficiency is to be explained not just by the weather, but also in considerable measure by low work resultancy. Output prime cost has risen and enterprise profitability has fallen. The number of farms operating at a loss or at a low level of profitability has increased. This has had a negative effect on the rate of expanded reproduction, on resolving socioeconomic tasks.

The primary wealth of the nonchernozem zone is, of course, the land.

How does the nonchernozem field pay for itself? Statistics bear out that so far in the 10th Five-Year Plan, only grain yields have risen. Average annual harvests have reached 15.3 quintals per hectare, 18 percent higher than the level in the last five-year plan. But the yields of potatoes, vegetables and sugar beets have decreased. As a whole, the average annual gross farm product production volume has decreased somewhat. This is especially typical of Ivanovskaya, Yaroslavskaya and Vologodskaya oblasts.

The question arises as to why, given a sharp increase in capital investments and material resources going into the countryside, so large and moreover so

decisive a branch as plant-growing has not made a substantial step forward? The answer would not be the same everywhere, but the primary reason is insufficient attention to the field, in a number of rayons; the assistance of the state and internal reserves are not always used effectively.

One weak sector is increasing soil fertility. Many leaders and specialists pay insufficient attention to it, do little to organize the procurement and use of local fertilizers. Each year, farms of the zone apply an average of only about five tons of organic fertilizers per hectare, two-fold less than, let's say, sovkhozes and kolkhozes of the Baltic states. But at the same time, manure is not hauled away for years on end from a number of farms, for example in Permskaya Oblast, Mordovian ASSR. The three-year plan for peat procurement, peat being an important component of compost, was met by only 69 percent. The farmers' partners have not been up to the mark either. Thus, enterprises of the Ministry of Chemical Industry owe farms of the zone more than two million tons of mineral fertilizers. Through the fault of the USSR Ministry of Construction Materials Industry, USSR State Sel'khoztekhnika Committee and other kolkhoz and sovkhoz suppliers, there has been a shortfall of upwards of 13 million tons of liming materials.

Drained and irrigated sections are being put into operation behind schedule, and it is on just such sections that farmers harvest the largest crops. Great opportunities for improvement here are linked to perfecting seed-growing and introducing promising new varieties. Sovkhozes and kolkhozes are in critical need of grass seed. That is a result of serious oversights on the part of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture, its local organs, and kolkhoz and sovkhoz specialists.

The distribution of capital investments also indicates insufficient attention to plant-growing. Some workers think that not much investment is required to develop farming, so distortions have been permitted in a number of places. Thus, individual farms have directed the bulk of production investments into developing stockraising and the lesser part into plant-growing. This has not permitted proper stimulation of farming. The lag in it has become a brake on stockraising development as well. Rations are poor on a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and much feed is ungraded. Such are the consequences of not following intelligent proportions when distributing investments.

But where did the funds scheduled for "Stockraising" go, including those cut out for farming? It should be expected that a substantial portion of them went to improve breeding, herd breed composition, the installation of farm feed shops, and so forth. But the bulk of the funds went to build stock-raising premises. As a result, with the increased availability of capital, the branch developed on an extensive basis and was not accompanied by an increase in farm productiveness. Many complexes stand idle.

Party and agricultural organs and the RSFSR Gosplan should obviously draw conclusions from the mistakes permitted. The interests of transforming the zone demand that capital investments be distributed strictly on a scientific

basis, that comprehensive development of the branches be ensured. It is important to strengthen supervision of the use of funds, to achieve a maximum return on outlays.

Given the major changes in the countryside and the increasing complexity of production and the farm structure, the role of economic analysis and the ability of managing fixed assets growth and to eliminate disproportions which develop has increased. Improving the effectiveness of capital investments will depend directly on balancing the material-technical base of agriculture in the nonchernozem zone. Unfortunately, the proportion of equipment and livestock in the composition of these assets is dropping. Last year, only 18 percent of the value of agricultural production assets went to machinery and equipment. But the proportion of buildings and structures reached 63 percent.

Today, the availability of machinery to nonchernozem kolkhozes and sovkhoses is at far from an optimum level and growth rates in equipment availability are considerably below capital availability. There are 1.5- to two-fold fewer tractors, grain- and potato-harvesting combines per 1,000 hectares of plowed and sown field here than, let's say, on farms of Belorussia and the Baltic states. There is obviously too little equipment here to do the work at the optimum times and at a high standard. And the tractor fleet still has an insignificant proportion of powerful T-150, K-700 and K-701 tractors. Farms are receiving primarily the low-power T-25, T-40 and DT-75M tractors. With such a delivery structure it is hard to achieve the highly efficient use of capital investments in equipment.

It is important to pay more attention to mechanizing labor-intensive stock-raising processes. Currently, only the new complexes and farms are meeting all their equipment requirements. But many premises are being renovated, and there is often not enough machinery for them. This leads to delay in starting-up facilities. Presently only a little more than a fourth of the cattle and about 60 percent of the hogs have been provided with machinery complexes.

One would think that planning organs and the RSFSR State Sel'khoztekhnika Committee would give more consideration to the needs of nonchernozem zone farms when setting up machinery production and deliveries. We should obviously begin redistributing capital investments somewhat more in favor of equipment. We are faced with demanding that the industrial ministries deliver more sets of equipment to zone farms, with anticipating the introduction of progressive technologies into production. Of course, in parallel with this we must also sharply improve machinery use on the farms themselves.

A special word about the roads. Only 48 per 1,000 square km in the zone has hard-surfaced roads. This is six-fold less than Lithuania, for example, and 11-fold less than Estonia. Approximately one-third of the central farmsteads are cut off from the rayon centers. In the past three years about 11,000 km of road has been built. That is very little. It would obviously make sense

to direct a more considerable proportion of the total funds to meet the needs of road-building construction.

Improving the work of subcontracting construction organizations must be viewed by party and soviet organs as an effective lever for overcoming shortcomings and accelerating investment recovery. It is precisely on their efficiency that the rapid introduction of production facilities, reducing the amount of unfinished work and providing laborers with good housing largely depend.

These unprecedentedly large capital investments testify to the tremendous concern of the party and the state for the future of the nonchernozem zone. It is the duty of the region's transformers to do everything they can to ensure that every public ruble serves to make the land blossom.

11052

CSO: 1824

MORE BAD WEATHER FEARED FOR LATVIAN HARVEST

Vil'nyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 2 Aug 79 p 4

[Article: "August Weather"]

[Text] July did not favor most of the territory of Latvia with either warmth or dry weather. Atmospheric processes defied all weather forecasts. There was rain and the temperature was four degrees lower than normal.

Perhaps August will straighten things out? Inga Aleksandrovna Kareva, chief of the Riga weather bureau, did not give our correspondent a consoling answer to this question.

"The long-term forecast indicated that August would be completely acceptable. Warm, dry weather with daytime temperatures of 20-25 degrees and nighttime temperatures of 10-15 degrees were expected for the first 10 days. On certain days the mercury column should rise to 28 degrees. Brief showers and thunder storms were supposed to bring some variety. In the second 10 days the forecast called for more frequent rain, but then in the third 10-day period the frequency of rainfall would again decrease. But during the last 20 days it was expected that the daytime temperature would drop to 15-20 degrees and nighttime temperatures to 5-10 degrees.

"But now August has begun and once again, just as in July, the long-term forecast is undergoing a real trial. Instead of dry weather rain is expected for the next 3-4 days. It is true that it will be warmer than a few days ago, but it would be imprudent today to look very far ahead. We will have to wait a little longer to see whether the August forecast will do as poorly as the July one did."

11,176
CSO:1824

GRAIN EMBEZZLED FROM ESTONIAN WAREHOUSE

Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 4 Jul 79 p 3

[Article by L. Kokk: "Upon Sober Reflection"]

[Text] Warehouse chief Endel' Vaydre did not sit around dreaming about getting drunk. As the reference from his place of employment states, he was all in all an excellent worker: "sociable, business-like, politically literate."

Driver Paul' Kul'd, a fourth-year correspondence student at Tallin Polytechnical Institute, was also strictly a teetotaler.

These two "positive" people met and committed a negative "deed." To put it simply, they abducted 3.5 tons of grain from the warehouse. Their second meeting took place, naturally, in the dock.

Dump truck driver P. Kul'd of "Oktoobri Lipp" kolkhoz had counted on just that "business-like" nature E. Vaydre possessed when he suggested the deal to him: he was prepared to buy "surplus" grain from the warehouse. Not for his own kolkhoz, but for himself....

By that time, warehouse chief Vaydre had also become acting chief of the Vy-ruskiy grain receiving center of the Valgaskiy Grain Products Combine.

"I get cussed out if there's not enough, and the same thing if there's too much," thought Vaydre, as he explained in court, "so I decided to sell Kul'd the surplus, at 11 kopecks per kilogram."

So this "sociable" person opened the hopper slide valve and state grain began to flow into the dump truck, with another to all appearances ordinary person at the wheel. The slide valve was clicked twice -- "there and back" -- and Vaydre received Kul'd's 350 rubles.

It was risky to haul home a full truckload of grain, so the truck left the highway for a little house in the woods where Kul'd's step-mother lived. Then he poured the grain into sacks at this transshipment base and hauled it

to the villages, where he sold it to private livestock owners -- but at 20 kopecks per kilogram. The profiteer's proceeds totalled nearly 700 rubles.

Plunderers of the people's wealth E. Vaydre and P. Kul'd were punished by a people's court. However, many circumstances of this criminal case lead one to serious reflection.

All purchasers of the stolen grain appeared at the criminal proceedings as witnesses. Middle-aged people who have given their entire lives to difficult peasant labor, they knew the cost of grain. And they also knew that the harvest from a household plot would not "stretch" so as to enable anyone to sell tons of barley and wheat. And it was uncomfortable to hear their assurances in court that they actually thought the grain was "honest."

One other thing. The character reference for driver P. Kul'd from "Oktoobri Lipp" kolkhoz noted that he had previously used a vehicle for personal reasons. But no practical conclusions had been drawn at the kolkhoz so as to bring order to the use of motor transport. After all, Kul'd didn't show up at the warehouse with a sack in his hands, he drove up in a kolkhoz dump truck. And the marketing of the stolen grain was done during working hours.

A representative of the Vyruskiy grain receiving center told the court that the collective had condemned the "actions" of its former leader. It was expected that it would be followed by indignation at the procedures which were customary at the warehouse and which created the temptation and theft. And the court heard that henceforward a solid barrier would be set up to the formation of "surpluses," that the throughput monitoring service would be made stronger, and so forth. But nothing of the kind occurred. A representative of the collective, acting as public defender (?) told with tears in his eyes what a conscientious and good person their chief-turned-thief had been. Moreover, the court was assured, in the name of the collective, that if the accused were not released on bail and given the opportunity to work at the warehouse at least in his former occupation of electrician, the collective doubted that the plan assignments could be met!

Yes, our state is broad and rich. There was a crop failure last year in the Baltic states and feed grain flowed in from distant grain-growing regions to preserve and multiply the public livestock herd on republic farms. That was the flow of grain into which the money-grubbers stuck their hands. And those beside me pretended it was not a crime.

In a recent decree, the CPSU Central Committee, while emphasizing the necessity of waging a systematic, irreconcilable struggle against money-grubbers, efforts to grab more from society, mismanagement and extravagance, called for the use of both convincing argument and the strict force of law in this struggle.

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LITHUANIAN GRAIN HARVEST UNDERWAY, FACING DIFFICULTIES

Vil'nyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 31 July 79 p 1

[Article by A. Simaytis, chief of the Administration of Crop Farming of the Lithuanian SSR Ministry of Agriculture, and V. Barbashin, correspondent: "The Pace of the Harvest Picks Up"]

[Text] The harvest season has arrived in the Neman region and kolkhoz and sovkhoz fields have come alive with the sound of thousands of motors: combines, trucks, and tractors. The decisive and concluding stage of the struggle for grain has begun. Not only are the farmers taking part, but so also are workers from the cities, sponsors from industrial and transportation enterprises and other organizations.

In the fourth year of the 10th Five-Year Plan the farms of our republic are to harvest grain from 1,092,000 hectares. Heavy rains last fall made it impossible to fulfill the plan for planting winter crops, and furthermore some died from cold during the winter. As a result, spring crops, basically barley, make up a large part of the planted area. A spring and summer drought had a negative effect on the harvest. The fields today are low and thin. Under such conditions the harvest has specific features that must be taken into account.

First of all, the barley is ripening at the same time over large areas, which increases the amount of work for this period because the fields must be harvested in a shorter time. This applies particularly to the schedule for harvesting the Nadya variety of barley. Studies by scientists show that if fields of Nadya are harvested 12-15 days after full ripening the loss will be about 15 quintals of grain per hectare. In this case time truly spurs us on; we must treasure every minute and show a high level of organization.

The grain is low at many farms. In some places grain stalks are 10-11 centimeters shorter than usual. This requires that all combines be specially adjusted for harvesting at low cut. Most of the machine operators have made preparations for this.

It must also be considered that after the rains passed the plants put out additional runners. It is difficult to gather such a harvest. The mowing units must be adjusted well so that they move at a lower level but do not get clogged.

The Ipatovskiy harvesting technique has worked well in our fields. The republic today has 930 harvesting-hauling complexes. Trucks are working by the group method and its advantages are apparent to all. However, we must avoid the mistakes of past years when large amounts of machinery were sometimes allowed to accumulate in small areas. Each combine must work in a distinct section, but in the same field as other units.

Many grain farmers beginning the harvest have decided to adopt the slogan "Work at a high pace with outstanding quality from the first day of the harvest." This is very correct. Last year the Kolkhoz imeni Antanas Snehkus in Kedayskiy Rayon, Draugas Kolkhoz in Radvilishkiy Rayon, and others started off immediately at a fast pace; they did well, and were able to gather the harvest without losses. But those farms which wasted time at the start of the harvest lost a good deal of grain. The appropriate conclusions from this must be drawn this year, and competition should be guided in precisely this direction.

Weather forecasters are promising good weather for August. Therefore, the pace of the harvest should be high everywhere. That is exactly how things are going at the Daugayskiy Sovkhoz-Tekhnikum in Alitusskiy Rayon, the Kolkhoz imeni Tanulyavichyus in Varenskiy Rayon, and other farms.

The practices followed by the Ashtreyi Kirsna Sovkhoz in Ladziyskiy Rayon deserve attention. The farm has used swath harvesting last year and again this year. Many farms are adopting this practice. Of course, the weather must be taken into account and work organized so that the grain does not lie in windrows for long.

The specialists at the farms are expected to give special attention to seed plots. They must be analyzed for growth and maturation.

The so-called "rear services" are also very important for success in the harvest. We are referring primarily to drying facilities. Almost all the grain-receiving points this year will accept all grain regardless of moisture content as well as grain with weed content up to 15 percent.

Performing harvest jobs in quick succession has become a definite rule. Correct procedures are followed by the Vishnyunay Kolkhoz in Prenayskiy Rayon and the Daugayskiy Sovkhoz-Tekhnikum in Alitusskiy Rayon where combines are equipped with chaff collectors and are followed immediately by pickup-presses that gather the straw and lay it in for feed. Right after this tractors enter the field and clean the stubble. All farms should operate this way.

This year's harvest will be a difficult one for the farmers. It is the battle mission of rural workers to gather in absolutely everything that has been raised, not leaving a single grain in the stubble or straw.

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PERENNIAL GRASS SEED PLOTS RESOWN IN BELORUSSIA

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Aug 79 p 2

[Article by Doctor of Agricultural Sciences and Professor V. Semenov, Bel-semtravob'yedineniye chairman A. Gnoyanik, and Candidate of Agricultural Sciences K. Vlasova, head of the grass seed-growing and selection laboratory: "Preserving Perennial Grass Seed Plantings"]

[Text] The drought of May and June had a negative impact on the growth and development of perennial leguminous and gramineous grasses. First-year catch crops were hit particularly hard, with not more than 10 percent of the cover crop shoots surviving. The loss was total in sandy loams [supeschanaya and legkosuglinistaya] in southern regions of the republic.

If steps are not taken, a sharp reduction in the collection of perennial grass seed next year will be unavoidable. That in turn will be reflected in the production of grassy fodder for a number of years. It is necessary foremost to restore the spring-sown cereal grass seed plants.

After the cover crop is harvested, the seed sections must be surveyed and the level of sprout loss established. There might be spots of mortality -- sprouts surviving in lower portions of the field's terrain, but not surviving on slopes and in elevated sections. In such cases, repair work is appropriate. On that portion of the field with no shoots, shallow disking should be done, with harrowing and sowing those same types and varieties sown on the section in the spring. Sowing with seed from last year's harvest is desirable. If such seed is not available, freshly harvested seed can be used, but it must first be carefully dried. If this year's grass seed plots have all died, bare sowing can be done on previously fertilized and cultivated sections to accelerate seed propagation.

In order to obtain pasture rye grass seed, meadow fescue seed and orchard-grass seed from summer plantings this next year, they must be sown in early August.

In spite of the drought, first- and second-year cereal grasses have yielded rather good harvests and have survived well. Such plantings must not be plowed, as seed can be harvested from them next year.

But to do this, the stubble should be cut and collected and mineral fertilizers applied. If young sprouts develop in abundance, mowing will be necessary by the end of the growing season, what is cut being used to fatten livestock or for silage. Nitrogen top-dressing will have to be repeated early next spring.

Leguminous grasses must be surveyed. If a section has 100-200 plants per square meter, that is satisfactory. On sections with well-cultivated soils, the permissible number of plants can be down to 50.

Sections with the allowable sprout density are preserved. We should approach rejecting leguminous grass plantings very cautiously this year. They must not be written off as useless for seed purposes unless absolutely necessary. Even first-year clover fields should be kept as seed plots if an average of 50-80 plants per square meter survive after the second cut.

The status of early-maturing red clover seed plots is currently causing justified alarm. The first cut was made in time, but the drought retarded growth and the development of aftergrowth. Its development only revived after the rains. As of 20 July, the bulk of the clover seed plots were in the budding phase, the start of flowering. Full flowering will begin in early August. This means there is still enough time for the seed grasses to finish blooming and for the seeds to mature.

Our studies have shown that clover seeds of yellow ripeness will not be damaged by a light fall frost. They can easily survive a frost of even nine degrees for 3-5 hours without losing their germination capacity, which remains at 80-85 percent. Therefore, farm leaders and specialists must be patient. Clover seed plots should not be cut prematurely for fodder purposes. When they are fully mature, they can be combined directly in good weather. In this regard, the combines must be equipped with clover-grating attachments and readied to harvest the seed without losses.

The hot, dry weather this June was favorable to alfalfa flowering and seed binding. Seed-growing sections at the "Ust'ye" and "Zhodino" experimental bases of the farming institute have good types of seed for harvest. In addition to the locally selected "Belorusskaya" and "Braslavskaya" varieties, the "Alpha-2" and "Starofranconsкая" foreign varieties have proven themselves to be outstanding. In early September, the seed will ripen and be ready for harvesting. At present, all kolkhoz and sovkhov alfalfa seed sections should be surveyed and a record made of which are well-seeded.

If the ripening is sudden, when the seed is fully mature it can be combined directly. If the ripening is gradual, during the maturation period the bulk of the alfalfa pods will have to be treated with Reglon. If it is not available, seed-growers can do the harvesting piece-meal, but it must be done in a consistently dry period. The seed plants are mowed into windrows. After 3-4 days of drying, the windrows are collected by combines with pick-up attachments. The combines must have grating attachments. The seed plants are threshed after the dew is gone, from approximately 12 noon to 4:00 pm.

Following the maturation of alfalfa seed plants and organizing the harvesting work should be entrusted to an experienced agronomist.

CONDITIONS ON PRIVATE FARMS DISCUSSED

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 8 Aug 79 p 2

[Article by N. Ivanova, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Pen'yevskiy Rural Soviet, Kalyazinskiy rayon, Kalininskaya Oblast: "In Close Cooperation: The Private Farm Is a Common Concern"]

[Text] Concerns for the private subsidiary farms of the populace were by no means secondary even in earlier times. It may be just that the questions were not solved as objectively as they are now. Now the rural soviet interacts with the kolkhoz managing board even more closely. It is not only important that the private farms provide a family's requirements for foodstuffs--potatoes, vegetables, milk and meat--although this is extremely valuable. The fact that a man puts down deep roots in the soil of the kolkhoz has great significance. Children become accustomed to the work of the peasant from an early age--working in a garden or taking care of the animals. And it is precisely here that they recognize the necessity and the value of their labor. Here the upbringing of a farmer begins.

We look at it this way: without a cow, a peasant household is not a household. On the kolkhoz imeni Kirov, a majority of the kolkhoz farmers have cows on their private farms; there are almost 200 such farms. The kolkhoz managing board constantly helps out so that there are more cattle on the private farms. At the end of last year, 18 heifers were sold to the kolkhoz farmers. Now, according to a decision of the general kolkhoz assemble, 200 calves will be sold. The kolkhoz farmers have already bought 50 of them.

Many new families start up each year on the kolkhoz, and almost every one acquires domestic cattle. This is a good sign--people are becoming soundly established.

Of course, the kolkhoz sells the calves and the heifers without harm to its public production; the plan for the yield in the livestock population as well as the commitments which have been made for the sale of meat and milk to the state are fulfilled without fail. There is a strict demand

for this here: the Plan is the law for everyone. The private farms in no way displace the concern for the interests of the public, the kolkhoz. The interests of the state have always been, are and will be foremost for my fellow villagers.

The following fact is clear confirmation of this. In the All-union Socialist Competition for increasing the efficiency of production and the quality of work, successful fulfillment of the plan for economic and socialist development for 1978, the kolkhoz was declared the winner and awarded the challenge banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee. This success is being reinforced by selfless labor. The kolkhoz farmers are striving to fulfill the five-year plan for selling livestock breeding products to the state in 4 and one-half years. The totals for 3 years verify this; it will be as they had planned--5,370 quintals of milk and 460 quintals of meat over the plan have been sold to the state in three years.

Devoting the main attention to the development of kolkhoz production, the creation of conditions for successful management of the private farm is not forgotten. In fact, it not only provides for the kolkhoz farmers' families. The surpluses are sold to the state. Last year, the residents of our Pen'yevskiy rural soviet sold 538 quintals of milk and 143 quintals of meat. Now surpluses will be even greater. In the first half of the year, we planned to buy 300 quintals of milk while the purchases are much greater; now individual suppliers sell four quintals of milk daily.

It was thought: the figures are not all that great. But there are more than 650 rural soviets in Kalininsdaya Oblast. If the same amount of production is collected on each of them, a solid addition to the overall amount of resources is obtained.

I admit that at one time they tried too hard on the kolkhoz, having hurried with the liquidation of a swine-raising farm. Actually it was a small one, and it produced little meat for the farm, but in return it aided the kolkhoz farmers in acquiring poultry. Recently the farm was reestablished for 20 sows. It is already proposed that this year no less than 300 young pigs be obtained. Of these, 200 will be sold to the kolkhoz farmers. The rest are being fed for the needs of public eating facilities.

Sometime you will hear apprehension: the private farm, they say, dulls the kolkhoz farmers' interest in the affairs of the public, the kolkhoz. This is far from being the case. Of course, one meets individuals who are inordinately drawn to their own affairs to the detriment of the kolkhoz's interests. But these are individuals. And it is necessary to work with such people to have an effect on them. I will tell you directly that, on the whole, the level of awareness is high in my fellow villagers.

Take V. A. Moshkov as an example. He is an equipment operator and heads a potato growing team. He works assiduously. Last year the team gathered

a little less than 200 quintals of the tuber per hectare. Now he is struggling for a higher result. V. A. Moshkov's team was declared the winner of the regional competition at the spring planting. The machinery operator's wife, Lidiya Ivanova, works as a milk maid and also labors assiduously. The Moshkovs have three children. The family's requirements for livestock products are satisfied due to their private farm. Moreover, last year the Moshkovs sold surplus home production to the state--120 kilograms of meat and 300 liters of milk.

Truely, one cannot name all of the families like this one. The Khaylovs, the Shulakovs, Popova, the Shcherbakovs, the Khlebuskins, the Kozhinovs and many others do well at work and skillfully manage their private farms.

The rural soviet and its active membership are constantly assisting not only the development of the private farms, but in increase in the purchase of agricultural production at them. Milk collectors were selected and they attempted to equip them with vessels and a means of transportation. A daily record of the delivered production is kept at the rural soviet's executive committee. The representatives are always informed of this, and they construct their work on the basis of the situation which has developed, they see where slip-ups are permitted and who permits them.

The majority of the representatives and the active members, being leading producers, are also examples of the skillful management of the private farm. Let us say that representative N. I. Shcherbakova heads the Vesovskaya brigade which was declared the winner in a socialist competition. Nina Ivanovna will also find the time for public affairs without fail: she carries out the duties of milk collector. Now she has already sold more than 500 kilograms of milk from her private farm.

Representatives Z. V. Khlebushkina, A. N. Kurkova, N. A. Zudin and others act similarly. Many of their fellow villagers follow the examples of the representatives. In particular, I must tell you about the chairman of the kolkhoz, M. S. Sorokin. He is an energetic man, attentive. He knows how to carry people along. He constantly shows his care for them. He is always interacting with the rural soviet, and he helps us well in both word and deed.

It is true that not all the problems are solved. The question of providing the cattle on the private farms with feeds worries us in particular. Now, combined feed is being sold to the individual supplier at the rate of 200 grams per liter of milk sold. The people are satisfied. But we also need fodders, particularly hay. The rural soviet and its active membership are also solving this problem along with the kolkhoz board. First of all, steps are being taken for the unconditional fulfillment of the plan for laying in feed supplies on the kolkhoz. This will also permit us to allocate a specific quantity of hay to the kolkhoz farmers. We are also aiming to have each village resident participate in laying in the feed supplies according to his own strength and capabilities.

Creating a specific social climate and the necessary conditions for livestock and fowl in every peasant household will help us to solve more successfully the statewide task of how to better provide the populace with foodstuffs.

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BRIEFS

ARTESIAN IRRIGATION—Alma-Ata—It is hard to believe that the flourishing land in Uygurskiy Rayon of Alma-Atinskaya Oblast is called "Karadal," which means "black valley." Three thousand hectares of corn, alfalfa, and melons spread out across the valley. The secret of the transformation of Black Valley, where formerly even the inhospitable wormwood had trouble growing, is using the recently discovered artesian basin. Some of the wells that have been drilled produce warm water. The farms use it for early warming of the soil. The land is given pre-planting water for this purpose and it helps sprouts to come up early. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 28 June 79 p 1] 11176

KAZAKH LIVESTOCK FEED—Alma-Ata—The Mayak, Ashchisay, and Teskensuyskiy sovkhozes of Chilikskiy Rayon are doing well laying in feed. But their indexes could be even better. The Tausurgurskiy Sovkhoz and Sovkhoz imeni XXV S'yezda Partii are behind schedule in feed preparation. These farms are not using their equipment to full capacity, the result of poor repair work. The 40 Let Kazakhstana Kolkhoz has more than 5,000 head of cattle. It is hard work to provide feed for such a herd. The workers at the farm are skillfully using progressive methods of laying in feed. Two years ago the kolkhoz planted sorghum, a relatively unknown crop in Kazakhstan, and got a fine yield of roughly 1,000 quintals of bulk greens per hectare. Letters came in from all over the republic asking them to share seeds. Last fall when planting alfalfa, Sudan grass, sweetclover, and other grasses they added another new crop from Bulgaria, "Perko." It withstood a cold winter very well and began growing smoothly in the spring, overtaking the alfalfa. Perko is responsive to abundant irrigation and produces four cuttings of 700-800 quintals of bulk greens per hectare in a growing season. It makes excellent haylage. The feed preparation system at the kolkhoz works continuously from early spring until late fall. The harvest is at its peak; the intensity of work is growing. As much feed has been harvested in the last 10 days as in the entire period before that. [Excerpts] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 7 July 79 p 1] 11176

KAZAKH FEED HARVEST—Alma-Ata—Eight oblasts in Kazakhstan are laying in haylage beyond the plan. Consolidated feed production detachments

are working in the meadows. Concentration of vehicles and machines and skillful use of flow technology have helped speed up the work of putting this valuable feed in the silos and trenches. Preservatives are being used so that it will keep better. [Text] [Moscow IZVETSIYA in Russian 29 July 79 p 1] 11176

BELORUSSIAN HARVEST BEGINS—Minsk—Selective grain harvesting has begun in southern Belorussia. Machine operators are hurrying to gather the harvest quickly and without losses despite the caprices of the weather. Composite mechanized detachments have been formed at the kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and Sel'khoztekhnika associations. Machine operators for two shifts of work have been provided for all 30,000 combines. Centralized dispatcher control has been instituted for hauling and procurement of the grain. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 July 79 p 1] 11176

BELORUSSIAN HARVEST PROGRESSES—Minsk—Almost half the grain crops in Belorussia have been harvested. Farms are preparing seed stocks at the same time. Under the direction of agronomists machine operators are harvesting the grain of the best varieties for this purpose and moving seed crops through warm-air drying platforms, heat generators, and cleaning-drying units. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 10 Aug 79 p 1] 11176

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